

to live. Mr. Soukup filed a lawsuit a number of years ago against the state because he was thought to be mentally incompetent and was basically incarcerated in DPI and the regional centers, and had a number of experimental types of operations, I guess you would call them, that's the nice term, but a number of things that were done to him that if were I think gone to court the state could be held liable for a tremendous amount of money more than the \$50,000 that was appropriated in 1981. In my opinion the state got off cheap then, but made the determination at that time that they were liable by allowing for that \$50,000 appropriation and setting up that trust fund. What we came to believe and Senator McFarland again might want to address this issue just because he was there on behalf of Mr. Soukup, said that the financial consideration, because of the way the interest rates have gone and the cost of living and things like that, Joe has just not been able to make it. He has been...he has had to sell newspapers. He's not opposed to that in order to have enough money on which to live. But when the fund was set up it was bringing in close to five to six hundred dollars a month, and the funds now can fluctuate anywhere between three and five hundred dollars, depending on the interest rates, and it is very difficult for him to live off that.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: What the committee is determined is that to raise this trust fund to the \$150,000 level will allow us to have the issue put to rest and that those funds that will be generated from that trust fund, on a monthly basis, will be adequate to fund Joe throughout the rest of his life.

SENATOR WESELY: When, Senator Hall, when Joe...is this trust fund actually money that is his, or only the interest off of it? Does the trust revert back to the Legislature...the General....

SENATOR HALL: The trust fund, once Joe is deceased, will revert back to the state.

SENATOR WESELY: I see. So it's the interest...

SENATOR HALL: So it is set up that he has the interest to live off of. And what we need to do is get it to a level where he is able to do that.